

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for developing and administering investment trusts comprising:

selecting an investment instrument from a plurality of available investment instruments, in which the act of selecting is based on a profile associated with an user's preferences;

creating an investment trust with the selected investment instrument;

trading the investment trust on a financial exchange to provide an ownership interest in the investment trust; and

redeeming the ownership interest in the investment trust for at least the investment instrument.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating a database of investment instruments available for selection.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising optimizing which investment instruments are selected to produce a desired growth in equity and yield return at a selected level of risk.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising tracking the value of the investment instrument.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising storing value information related to the tracked investment instrument in a database.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising generating a financial report.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- determining whether the investment instrument expires; and
- replacing the investment instrument with a similar investment instrument when the investment instrument expires.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating a database of investment trusts.
9. (Currently Amended) A system for developing and administering investment trusts comprising:
- a means for ~~receiving a selection of~~ selecting an investment instrument from a plurality of available investment instruments, in which the act of selecting is based on a profile associated with an user's preferences;

a means for creating an investment trust with the received selection of the investment instrument;

a means for trading the investment trust on a financial exchange to provide an ownership interest in the investment trust; and

a means for redeeming the ownership interest in the investment trust for at least the investment instrument.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising:

a means of creating a database of investment instruments available for selection.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising

a means of optimizing which investment instruments are selected to produce a desired growth in equity and yield return at a selected level of risk.

12. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising a means of tracking the value of the investment instrument.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12, further comprising a means of storing the value information of the tracked investment instrument in a database.

14. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising a means for generating a

financial report.

15. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising:

a means for determining whether an investment instrument expires; and

a means for replacing the investment instrument with a similar investment instrument when the investment instrument expires.

16. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising a means of creating a database of investment trusts.